in Karnataka has been recommended to the Licensing Committee;

(b) whether the State Government wants to set up this plant in the Joint Sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) M/s. Karnataka State Industrial Investment & Development Corporation Ltd. (KSIIDC), a State Government Undertaking of the Government of Karnataka, has selected M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd. as their Joint Sector partner for setting up of an integrated Steel Plant in Bellary District of Karnataka. The proposed capacity of the plant, at completion, is estimated to be 3 MTPA. The product mix includes flat and non flat products.

In view of the recently announced changes in the industrial policy, an industrial licence is not necessary for setting up this project by KSIIDC.

National Centre for Oil palm Research in Karnataka

176. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Karnataka has represented to the Central Government for establishment of a National Centre for Oil-palm Research; and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Detailed specifications of the land required for setting up the Centre have been communicated to the Government of Karnataka for suggesting a suitable site.

Utilisation of irrigation potential

177. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a gap in the utilisation of irrigation potential created in the country under large medium and minor irrigation projects;

(b) if so, what is the break-up of this gap in terms of large, medium and minor irrigation and to which plan period does this gap relate to; and

(c) whether Government have prepared a time bound plan for utilisation of this potential, if so, the details of the plan and of investment likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the end of VI Plan, the gaps in utilisation of irrigation potential created through major & medium and minor schemes were 46.8 lakh hecteres and 22.7 lakh hectares respectively. At the end of VII Plan, the corresponding figures were 50.2 lakh hectares and 33.0 lakh hectares respectively.

(c) The Government is implementing the Command Area Development Programme for reducing the gap between potential created and utilised and has also taken a series of measures for improving water management practices, to bridge the gap. In addition, the States have also been asked to re-appraise the figures of potential created in order to correct over-reporting, if any.

Companies defaulting in remittance of P.F. accounts

178. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of companies defaulting in remittances to P.F. account as on 31st July, 1991: